



Illustration by Erwin Evert;  
From 'Systematic Botany'

## ***SHOSHONEA PULVINATA*** **SHOSHONEA**

Shoshonea is a low, mat-forming, long-lived perennial with a woody taproot and branched rootcrown. Flowering stems are 2-8 cm tall and usually clothed at their bases with remnants of the previous year's leaf sheaths. Leaves are ca. 5-25 mm long, 3-20 mm wide, and have a petiole that is ca. half their length. The leaf blades are oddly pinnate with 5-11 divisions and oblong to oval in outline. The leaf petioles are swollen and papery at their bases, and foliage is glabrous to somewhat roughened. The smallest flower clusters consist of 1-5 sessile bisexual flowers and 2-6 stalked male flowers; all with yellow petals, compactly arranged at the ends of multiple stalks in an open, umbrella-like inflorescence. The 2 slender styles arise from a round inconspicuous disk. The fruits are approximately 2-4 mm long, with the ribs and the rest of the surface lignified, and slightly roughened to the touch, but without wings. Flowering late June-July.

In open habitats, *SHOSHONEA PULVINATA* forms dense cushions and cannot be mistaken for any other member of the Parsley family in our area. In partially shaded sites, the cushion-forming habit is not so strongly expressed, and it can be mistaken for species of *MUSINEON*, *CYMOPTERUS*, and *LOMATIUM*. The sessile flowers and persistent leaf bases are diagnostic.